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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/466,993	12/10/1999	WALTER A. HUBIS	A-67525/RMA	1822

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EXAMINER

LUU, LE HIEN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2141

DATE MAILED: 12/10/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/466,993	HUBIS, WALTER A.
	Examiner Le H Luu	Art Unit 2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 November 2002.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-28, 32 and 36-46 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-28, 32, and 36-46 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____. .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

1. Claims 1-28 and 36-46 are presented for examination.

2. Applicant's election of claims 1-28 and 32 in Paper No. 6 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-28 and 36-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over **Hubis et al. (Hubis)** patent no. 6,343,324, in view of **DeKoning et al. (DeKoning)** patent no. 6,480,955.

5. As to claim 1, Hubis teaches the invention as claimed, including a method for collecting information for a computer system having a server, at least one device controller coupled to said server by a first communication channel, said method comprising steps of:

querying said server to identify all host bus adapters coupled thereto (col. 6 lines 34-56);

querying each host bus adapter to identify all device controllers attached on said communication channel (col. 5 line 59 – col. 6 line 8; col. 6 lines 34-56);

issuing a read connection information command to said device controller and returning the connection results determined by said command including identifying all devices coupled to said device controller (col. 8 lines 6-27); and

storing the returned connection results in a data structure (col. 8 lines 6-42).

However, Hubis does not teach a client coupled in communication with said server.

DeKoning teaches using a client or management station that connects and communicates with server to query status of storage devices (col. 12 line 49 – col. 46).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Hubis and DeKoning to provide a client to communicate with the server because it would allow user to use a management station to monitor and manage heterogeneous storage systems.

6. As to claims 2-28, Hubis and DeKoning teach server identifier, host bus identifier, controller identifier, server identification table, world wide number (WWN), fibre channel arbitrated loop bus adapters, storage device array controllers, storage area network (SAN) (Hubis, col. 4 line 40 – col. 8 line 58; DeKoning, col. 3 line 50 – col. 5 line 65; col. 12 line 34 – col. 13 line 40).

7. Claims 32 and 36-46 have similar limitations as claims 1-28; therefore, they are rejected under the same rationale.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Le H. Luu, whose telephone number is (703) 305-9650. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart, can be reached at (703) 305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 746-7239.

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

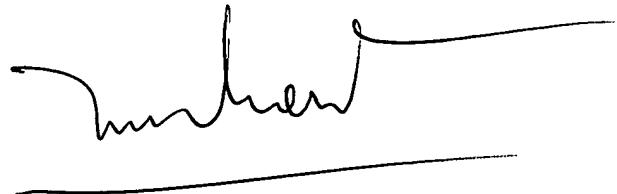
or faxed to:

(703) 746-7239, (for formal communications; please mark
"EXPEDITED PROCEDURE").

Or:

(703) 746-7240 (for informal or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LE HIEN LUU". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent vertical stroke in the center.

LE HIEN LUU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

December 04, 2002